



# Southeastern DX Club

## W4NT

THE SOUTH'S PREMIER DX CLUB  
November 2008

**SEDXC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet Holiday Dinner**  
**December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**RSVP to [mallphin@aol.com](mailto:mallphin@aol.com)**

### From the President...

Sorry I missed the October meeting as Mary and I were out of town.

I heard the program was absolutely outstanding....our VP, Bob W2WG continues to line up some terrific programs each month. Thanks from all of us.

Things are busy around the Allphin household. I am waist deep in planning the first real DXpedition to Desecheo (KP5) in about 15 years and working hard to make sure the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet/Holiday Party is a wonderful, memorable event.

Today, I finalized the details with The Paper Mill Grill and tried to negotiate a little better price. It was quickly pointed out to me that a recent event there had paid \$9.00 more for the same dinner options we have.

The wonderful menu is included elsewhere in this newsletter. There is still time to RSVP to me directly at [mallphin@aol.com](mailto:mallphin@aol.com) and send your check to Mike Weathers, ND4V our treasurer. As of this writing we have 74 confirmed and have room for about 20 more.

Please don't miss it!

Lastly I am pleased to announce that the SEDXC has been offered unlimited use of the MATPARC repeater. We have been talking for years about reactivating a repeater for the SEDXC to hang around on. This one is centrally located and should be accessible by most of our local members....give 'er a try on 145.41 CU at the meeting Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>!

73, Bob-K4UEE

### Vice President' Report:

Our program this month will be presented by Don Nesbitt, N4HH, with special guest star WF4W, Tad Williamson. The subject will be the transceiver that has captured the hearts, minds, and wallets of many SEDXC members lately, the Elecraft K3. Don will give one of his patented technical presentations, reveal the secret of K3 Mojo, and will extend some of the topics of last month's program as they apply to the K3. You will also see a demonstration of long and short path propagation via ultra-broadband antennas. There are still a few shopping days left until the Holiday party, so there will still be time to get into the Elecraft queue after the presentation, and the K3 will fit into a large stocking. Don't miss the show!

Don will be followed by Dave Johnson in January. Dave will tell you how—and how not—to put up your first tower, and for those who already have one, he will be giving some advanced tower construction techniques. In February Tim Lemmon, WK4U, will present an outstanding program on Linux applications for ham radio. Perhaps he will elaborate on the recent success of running N1MM under Linux using WINE.

The low band DX season appears to be getting underway, as W8JI was reeling them in on 160m this morning, and even I could hear them. Speaking of W8JI, Gary, WB4SQ, set up a visit to Tom's station for Saturday, November 15. We met Tom for lunch at a nearby restaurant at noon, after which we visited his new contest station and antenna farm. We saw an antenna switching network

you would not believe as well as got Tom's view on the good, the bad and the ugly in HF transceivers. We also had a chance to use an HT to contact Tom via the W8JI repeater in case you got lost wandering the very extensive grounds. W8JI is on 147.2250, shift +, no tone. Thanks for making this happen, Gary!

I have been hearing a very loud signal on 160m this year coming from Forest Park. It's from K4WZ, Ron Todd. Ron is using a 160m T with 46 radials, and is knocking them dead. He seems to have about a two S unit edge on my new T, which so far has only 16 radials. Ask Ron about the antenna. K4DLI will also be happy to tell you why you should try this antenna—formerly called a Marconi. Several of us have been hearing an unwanted and sometimes loud 160m signal around 1824 kHz. I call it the Burbler, though it seems to have Texas Chainsaw Massacre components. It is audible during the day and apparently has some skywave component, so I figure it is not far off but is a few miles away. If you hear it, let me know. 1824 is a prime DX frequency.

Speaking of 160m, I got some very good news last night. I had worked VK9DWX on 160m, with several folks hearing the confirmation—but I was not in the log. I sent an email request to recheck the log, giving the time, date and preceding and following stations—and they found me. That's the first time I have gotten one on appeal—worth a try if you get into a similar situation.

CU you at the November meeting.

73  
Bob W2WG

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## Treasurer's Report:

General Fund:	\$7,397.39
Packet Fund:	<u>20.15</u>
Total Balance:	\$7,417.54

The treasury is a little bloated as a result of members pre-paying for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner. Still, we're in good shape.

There are several requests for funding of DXpeditions to be voted on at this month's meeting: A couple of requests that were in the September bulletin and a new request from some rag-tag group that's going to Desecheo. Come to the meeting and vote. I approve this message.

73 es DX  
Mike, ND4V

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## SEDXC Meeting Minutes:

Wednesday October 15, 2008

Bob W2WG called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

There were 41 members in attendance. Guest in attendance were Ruth Stanley WB4LUA and John Stanley K4ERO. Richard KB7WO a new member was in attendance.

Presidents Report: Bob K4UEE was absent.

Vice Presidents Report: Bob W2WG presided;

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Due to the last presidential debate the presentation was given immediately and all other business was suspended.

Activities Manager: Gary WB4SQ discussed the following briefly;

- 1) Announced a club visit to W8JI to view the new antenna farm and rigs for Saturday November 15, 2008.

Program: Spectrum Analysis by John Stanley K4ERO

- 1) John gave a fascinating presentation of spectrum analysis. John recently was featured in QST with articles about Spectrum Analysis

- 2) John and Ruth provided software downloads
- 3) John suggested that we go to SoftRock 40's website for simple software defined radio kits and demonstrated some of these after the presentation.
- 4) Winrad software for SDR was recommended.

Websites for MØKGK and F4DAN provide a lot of information on SDR.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30PM.

George Nicholson Secretary

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## Activities Report:

Hope everyone had as much fun at the Lawrenceville hamfest as I did. Let's welcome new members; W4OG (Tony) of Dacula, K3GWK (Buzz) of Jenkinsburg, & W4WAG (Wayne) from Evans, GA. There were also three renewals. There were no new member photos, as our photographer, and I won't name who... Bob, didn't have fresh camera batteries. Hope our new members can email a recent photo or have one snapped at the November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Don't forget to bring your door prizes.

Also, don't forget about the December 7<sup>th</sup> banquet, celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Details can be found elsewhere on the website. Hope everyone has a fantastic Thanksgiving...

Gary – WB4SQ

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As a result of all the talk about the SEDXC 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary there has been a lot of reminiscing about the "OLD DAYS" when the club was new. One of the "Old Timers" is Val, N4RJ. We are pleased to present the following from him about his start in Ham Radio.



1956-My back door neighbor was K4ICS, Ed Connelly. I first heard some Morse Code, at night, coming from his "Shack" which was a 8x10 tool storage area at the back of his house. He smoked a sweet smelling cigar and copied code on a roll of brown paper like paper towels and kept his log this way. He used a Globe Scout65B and HQ-129X and later purchased a Globe King 500C with VFO.. AM rig. He could rip up TV sets for a mile around. I'll never forget Kay-Four-IDA-CHALIE-SUGRA! He and K4ICT took me down to Macon city hall and let me listen to code tapes. Somehow, a week later I had the code( at 13 WPM!) I amazed them by learning the code group patterns and actually copying ahead of the machine. (This was several years before imbibing Beer slayed most of my Brain Cells). Went to Atlanta (mother took me and I , too was intimidated by the Federal building) and received KN4LRO at age 13 in September 1956. LRO stood for the "Little Radio Operator" as I was only 4' 11" and 79 pounds at age 13...and 14... My first rig was a Globe Chief 90 , J-38 key(later for Christmas got a Chrome Vibroplex Bug) . I first used my grandma's all band console radio and zero beat with an AM Radio to get a CW note to copy on 40 CW. Later, I bought an old SX-28

without a cabinet-Rack model and used an Apple Box for a cabinet. I remember not having the XMTR and RCVR grounded together, laid my head on the RX case while holding the Mike...Quite a shock, saw stars. Later used 100 Silver dollars I had saved to buy a DX-100 from K4ICT and went AM with 100 Watts. First voice QSO was EL2F in Liberia using a 2 el "Catfish Special" made of 4 Fishing Poles wrapped with Aluminum foil. I QRMed the local TV store 1 mile away with this setup and wrecked all the neighbors Phones, TVs and Radios. One neighbor called and actually said "I know you are Hamming, I SEE you sitting there at your transmitter on my TV". I lived in fear of reprisals every time I turned the rig on. Later I built a pair of 811As and ran QRO...300W. I had "D" batteries for Bias supply and used a wooden pole to throw the fuse box on to ignite the Plate transformer. Of course I made the tube sockets using a Rat Tail file. All I had was a drill, screwdriver/pliers and that rat tail file and a hammer. I scrounged parts from everywhere and was a USAF MARS member. I carried all that MARS junk and parts around for 40 years before dumping it. Oh, I forgot..... I used an ARC-5 on 40M just before I saved enough to buy the Globe Chief. We were pretty poor but hamming let me escape family troubles and divorce situations. Unfortunately, it kept me from discovering Girls until it was almost too late!!!!

I checked in to the Georgia Teenage net using that DX-100, and remember John K4BAI, Huddie Pratt(little but loud), John Fearon W4WKP, Bill Barr, and many others. My 80M antenna was just a hank of wire lying on my roof. I don't know how I worked them and don't know why I didn't burn up our house.

We went out and did Field Day with K4AT and others, remember a real bad rainy field day and John K4BAI came out and amazed us with CW skills. But we almost got killed by Lightning, plus the 10KW generator wasn't grounded and the line was under water. So were our wet feet. Later after college days, worked Field Day somewhere with Ken K4TEA and Brooke, possibly Rusty

out at a remote farm with a pond. We drank( at least I know I did) a lot of beer and got pretty out of it, but worked some good QSOs....I think.

I took a home made 65W exciter and the SX-28 to college in 1960 and faded away from Hamming until I started practicing Dentistry in 1968.

Saw Johnny Fearon(blind) in 1969 at the Atlanta Hamfest, and he recognized my voice(even though it changed a lot from my 14yr old one he last heard on the Atl Teenage net, got motivated, bought a SB-220 and Drake Line and put a 10-40M vertical at 60' in a pine tree in my back yard. Later, lightening took it away. But my DX thirst continued. Got hooked up with lots of old friends, and heard W4YWX-Newberry on so loud it almost blew my speaker. Found out he was living about 2 miles away. I wondered why he was running 200 QSOs an hour to my 70 on 40CW, turned off the rig and went over to see his full sized beam at 100'.....the next season, Paul and John, K4BAI and I worked the CQWW SSB at his place. man! A set of beams-remember the blue fiberglass 15m with copper foil coils wrapped around the elements...W 4 YOKKKKAAHHHAAMMMMAA Whiskey X-A-Ray. We did well and John kept saying " Hey some guys are saying we are too loud"...we had disconnected the ALC, but told him to turn the gain down a bit. We were wide as a Barn! A little Soup from the BTI-LK-2000 helped too. Those were the days when we worked VS6DO on 160.... remembered well.

My ham radio addiction kicked in. We flew to the Bahamas with Carl WB4ZNH and put W4NT/C6A on the air from atop a big hotel there. I still remember the massive JA pileups, working them while squatting on the kitchen table. First time I ever experienced something like that. Must have been around 1974.

Around 1976, we thought it would be a good idea to get a Club Call sign. We applied for and got W4NT, a call held by Lloyd Seay, a one time SEDXC man and good Dixer. I am still trustee of this call, some 32 years later.

Many QSLs were given to W4GTS as custodian of these in the 80s but Phil is now a Silent Key. I still have lots of rare cards for W4NT. It has worked a lot of DX. Then, I moved to the highest hill in Gwinnett County and used a 4 el Qual....Unreal QTH. I could ALMOST see the Japanese and Asiatic Russians from my back yard up there. K4JRB came out and won the CQWW SSB 40M USA from there using a rotary dipole. Also, Bill Barr came out and we worked so many JAs on 15M using a straight key that due to continuous duty, we melted the plate transformer. I ripped the SB-220 out, and told him to go on with the Drake C Line barefoot. He didn't miss a beat and the 100W was full enough with that Quad to continue the pileup. But, we learned that 4 Beer Drinkers couldn't and shouldn't try to fix a burned up SB-220 just to keep the show going. Luckily, No one got electrocuted. We used 147.50 Simplex to chat on and announce DX in those days. With my high hilltop I could hear just about everyone in Atlanta. Those were fun days.

1979- Early spring-Paul N4PN and I met Kit Carson VP2KC on 15 SSB. After 5 trips to St Kitts on his plane we had assembled what would be the record breaking station. Using 23 hams the record was smashed, largely due to efforts by members of The SEDX Club. It took many years to break our record worldwide, and many more to defeat it as a North American Multi record. I think it stood as the NA multi record longer than any other, just recently being broken. We also won world plaques as single ops K4UEE, N4PN and N4RJ as : VP2KAE, VP2KAA, and VP2KAC. I'm very proud of that SEDXC accomplishment.

Then, the Ham Bug really dug in as I bought 23 Acres just outside of Snellville. Eventually, it was loaded with 9 towers up to 180', 80M rotary beam, full sized 40M 3 el, and stacks of 4/4/4/4 on 20-10. 160 M antennas and beverages were strewn all over. It was full addiction time. We managed several trophies and certificates out there. Then, bill Fisher came along. We changed and built and replaced almost everything. Bill took everything to a new level with

running 2 rigs and computerization. W8ZF et al had a 220 Link and a massive cluster network to spot DX on. By the way, Bill Fisher won the CQWW CW contest single op from Georgia for the entire USA there- a feat unheard of from Ga. Also, he won the Sweepstakes and set one helluva record. Operators at N4RJ multi included: WD4RCO, KB4ET, KB4IT, K4BAI, N4OL, K2PO, W8ZF, N4HH, K4UEE, K4PI, N4NX, N4PN, K4EWG, KM9P, K4SB, KL7YL?, KS4Q, Bob Duggan, WA4JTI, W4OUN, W4LVM, WN4KKN, N4HU, WB4RUA, K4JPD, AA4V, and many others I cannot recall.

The station was disassembled in 1998. Whomever develops that property will find miles of buried coax, and many hunks of concrete with tower bases under there. Plus, there was a scrap pile of Aluminum I wish I had recycled. Lots of stuff went to Toccoa where Bill put it to good use as W4AN super contest station. R.I.P. Bill, I think of you almost every week.

Since retirement, I just piddle around with QRP, Bird Feeder Antennas and such and try to catch up on QSLing from the past. It's great to scratch my head and dig up old and fond memories. Ham Radio has really been an enjoyable part of my life. Uh, oh I'm thinking about some of the old Dayton times in the Boneyard. Wonder if I can still that old Vasectomy probe?????

73,

Val....N4RJ ex-K4Little Radio Operator

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?????? Vasectomy probe ????????????

Val that sounds like another interesting story!! Would we really want to hear it???

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**Just a reminder for everyone to bring something for the club raffle. This will help the club and give you a chance to redistribute some of your "Fine Collectibles" to other members of the club.**

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Be sure to see the last two pages of the bulletin for the menu for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Holiday Dinner on December 7<sup>th</sup> at the *Paper Mill Grill* and for a funding request for an upcoming DXpedition.

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Here is a copy of the letter Bob, K4UEE, received from Mark Croney, W4ZF, about the MATPARC repeater.

Dear Bob-K4UEE

I am the president of the MATPARC group here in Atlanta. We have been entertaining some discussions among ourselves regarding the use of our 2 meter repeater on 145.41 and how to couple that to a need within the Atlanta amateur community. We would like to extend an invitation to the SEDXC to consider using the repeater as a "home base". We recognize that there is a large and active DX community in the Atlanta area and have observed that with the relocation of the K4JPD repeater to Douglasville, the DX community no longer has easy access to a metro-wide forum to discuss various DX activities.

So, our proposal is simple. We would like to extend an invitation to the SEDXC to use the 145.41 repeater as a gathering point for the DX community. The group can feel free to use it for drive time discussions and/or a place to hang out with a radio in the shack. Another idea that was proposed was to conduct a weekly "How's DX?" net to stimulate interest among the membership and to attract others to the DX community. Any such use would be at the discretion of the SEDXC. Also, we are not seeking any material support for the repeater. We are simply offering the use of our repeater as a means to strengthen our amateur community in general and perhaps to enhance the activities of the SEDXC.

Some of our future plans for repeaters include returning our 440 machine to service soon. It has been down for repairs. We are also discussing the potential to add echo-link to one of the repeaters.

Let me know if this is something that your organization is interested in pursuing or if you have any questions. MATPARC and the SEDXC have both been active in the Atlanta area for quite some time and we would welcome the opportunity to work together to enhance this segment of our service.

73,  
Mark Croney  
W4ZF  
President - MATPARC

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As some others have noted earlier in the bulletin a trip was made down to Tom Rauch, W8JI, to look over his new towers and contest station he is putting up. It was quite a trip and here is a photo of the group that went down and saw tom's setup up as well as having some good BBQ on the way there. Photo courtesy of Cal Ludwick.



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#### SEDXC OFFICERS

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**The SEDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southeastern DX Club . All opinions expressed by the contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, officers, or club. We welcome your opinion**

**DX PACKET FREQ. (Corrections, 1/2/04)**

**N4XMX off line(2400) 144.91 (direct, Vinings),  
off line(2400) 145.65 (direct or ATLDX)**

**Note: ATLDX is down right now, direct OK.**

**KS4Q (2400) 144.97 MHz; 'c saw3'**

**(2400) 145.63 MHz; 'c saw4'**

**(1200) 145.69 MHz; 'c saw5'**

**Once you get a connect on any of the three**

**above frequencies, enter 'c saw1'. Once**

**you get a connect to saw1, enter 'c ks4q'**

**or simply 'dx'. or telnet dx.ks4q.net**

**NI4X (9600) 144.93, 145.71, 440.75**

**K4UGA (Athens)(2400) 145.67 (SE Megaclst)**

**(telnet 128.192.52.40 599, must put in port 599)**

**DX COMMUNICATION FREQ.**

**Simplex 147.54**

**K4JPD Repeater (tone 85.4 Hz) 147.195+**

**SEDXC WEBPAGE**

[www.sedxc.org](http://www.sedxc.org)

**SEDXC REFLECTOR [sedxc@contesting.com](mailto:sedxc@contesting.com)**

SEDXC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet Holiday Dinner December 7<sup>th</sup>

Reception

**Cocktail Bar in Room  
Cheddar Cheese Straws, Warm Pistachios**

Dinner

**Trio of Dips  
Southern Pimento Cheese, Roasted Pepper & Sundried Tomato  
Hummus, Assorted Chips & Crackers**

**Hearts of Romaine Caesar Salad with Blistered Grape Tomatoes, Shaved  
Pecorino Romano & Pesto Croutons**

**Sauteed Breast of Chicken Stuffed with Ham, Gruyere & Spinach Whipped  
Potatoes, Asparagus  
Artichoke, Tomato & Roast Red Pepper Cream**

**Or**

**Fire Roasted Beef Tenderloin with Mustard Herb Crust  
Whipped Potatoes, Asparagus  
Cabernet Bordelaise**

**Or**

**Grilled Atlantic Salmon over Hoppin John Risotto  
Steamed Asparagus, Cranberry Relish**

Dessert

**Red Velvet Cheesecake**

**Or**

**Tira Misu**

**Water and tea included, all other beverages charged to individual guests  
\$35.00 per person**

## DXpedition Support Proposal

Entity Name / Call Sign	<b>Desecheo Island, KP5/ Call Sign TBD</b>
Web page	<a href="http://www.kp5.us">www.kp5.us</a>
Team leader / number of members:	<b>Glenn Johnson, WØGJ and Bob Allphin, K4UEE + 15 total team</b>
Date of Dxpedition	<b>TBD, range is 15 Jan 2009 – 30 Mar 2009</b>
QSL manager / QSL route	<b>TBD</b>
Budget estimated for Dxpedition	<b>\$70,000</b>
Position on most wanted list:	<b>#7 overall, #3 in EU, #2 in ASIA</b>
Landing permit/operating permission approved.	<b>Yes</b>
Last time this entity was activated	<b>Dec. 2005 for 23 hours, prior to that 1993</b>
Typical interval between activations	<b>10-15 years</b>
Anyone planning to activate this entity before your DXpedition	<b>No</b>
Objective / Strategy	<b>Provide at least one QSO with every DXer needing it for new one.</b>
SEDXC member initiating request	<b>Mike Thomas, NA5U, KP1-5 Project Director</b>
SEDXC member(s) participating	<b>W6IZT, N4GRN &amp; K4UEE</b>
Funding amount requested	<b>\$1000</b>
Send Funds to:	<b>See website for details and options</b>
SEDXC logo on QSL cards?	<b>Yes</b>
SEDXC logo on web page	<b>Yes</b>
Additional comments:	
Your support is very important to us. !	

### Internal Use

<b>Date published in the newsletter</b>	
<b>Results of member review at the meeting: (approved / disapproved)</b>	
<b>Funds disbursed on date:</b>	
<b>Funds disbursed by:</b>	